

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA COUNTY**

IN THE MATTER OF DIRECT)
FILING OF FELONY CASES)
INTO SUPERIOR COURT)
_____)

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
NO. 2002-025

WHEREAS, under Arizona Supreme Court Rule V-A (amended), the Presiding Judge of Maricopa County is the Chief Judicial Executive Officer of Maricopa County and shall exercise administrative supervision over the Justice of the Peace Courts in Maricopa County; and

WHEREAS, under Maricopa County Administrative Order 2000-70, the Court has consolidated all front-end felony criminal case processing involving preliminary hearings, arraignments, changes of plea and early disposition proceedings in regional centers; and,

WHEREAS, it has been recommended by consultants commissioned by the Superior Court of Arizona and agreed upon by County management and justice agencies that a direct filing model is the necessary next step to expedite caseload processing in Criminal and this projected to commence in May 2002;

WHEREAS, direct filing felony criminal cases into regional centers requires a high degree of coordination between court personnel in court administration in the Superior Court and the Justice Courts;

WHEREAS, under the new system of direct filing, the services of justice court felony clerks will no longer be required for felony case processing in the Justice Courts;

IT IS ORDERED:

1. The following Justice Court positions (denoted by Position Control Numbers - PCN's) are placed on "special duty" assignment to Superior Court Administration effective Monday, April 15, 2002, meaning these positions and any employees in the positions shall be managed by the Superior Court Administrator or his designee. Although the employees and positions will remain in the Justice Court budget for compensation and fringe benefit purposes, the Superior Court Administrator or his designee shall have all supervisory responsibilities and obligations, including hiring, firing, discipline, work assignment, performance assessment, payroll approvals, and any and all other management prerogatives permitted under the Judicial Personnel Merit System.

PCN 33655
PCN 1023
PCN 10087
PCN 11298
PCN 17466
PCN 33661
PCN 33660
PCN 19707

PCN 33656
PCN 1026
PCN 996
PCN 12770
PCN 33658
PCN 33657
PCN 33659
PCN 33293

2. The Superior Court Administrator shall conduct an assessment and evaluation of the newly constituted direct filing system during the months of May, June, and July, 2002, and recommend to the Presiding Judge, no later than August 1, 2002, any subsequent permanent reorganization to promote efficiency in the early processing of felony cases.
3. Justice Court employees on "special duty" status shall not have their salaries or benefits diminished in any fashion.
4. Justice Court Administration shall cooperate and facilitate the transfer of staff to "special duty" status and promote the changes occasioned by this administrative order to the fullest extent.

Dated this 22nd day of March, 2002

Hon. Colin F. Campbell, Presiding Judge
Superior Court of Arizona in Maricopa County

Original: Clerk of the Superior Court

Copies: Hon. Thomas O'Toole, Criminal Presiding Judge
Justices of the Peace
Gordon M. Griller, Court Administrator
Bonnie Dicus, Justice Court Administrator
Marcus Reinkensmeyer, Chief Deputy Court Administrator
Peter Kiefer, Criminal Court Administrator
Mary Bucci, Project Manager
Sandi Wilson, Deputy County Administrator
Chris Bradley, County Budget Manager
Sylvia Romero, OMB Analyst
Richard Pagoria, Court Human Resources Director